



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Newsletter

March 2009

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPSS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

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EOPSS Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

Massachusetts Law Enforcement Challenge

Application Deadline: April 28, 2009

The Challenge is a joint effort of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association and the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Highway Safety Division. The awards program recognizes state and local police departments for their traffic safety efforts in 2008 to reduce motor vehicle-related fatalities, injuries and economic loss in communities by combining traffic enforcement with public information and education.

For more information: www.mass.gov/highwaysafety and click on Massachusetts Law Enforcement Challenge, or contact Caroline Hymoff at Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us.

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini- Grant Program

Application Deadline: Open Enrollment through June 2009

Funded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Massachusetts Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini-grant Program, "Using Prevention Strategies ... Empowering SADD Students to Improve Their Schools and Communities (UPS)," addresses the core issues of underage drinking, impaired driving, and traffic safety. The goal of the mini-grant program is to raise awareness about these issues and create sustainable youth and adult behavior changes to reduce the risks associated with engaging in these activities. All Massachusetts middle schools, high schools, and youth groups are eligible to apply for a \$600 mini-grant from SADD. Each group or chapter selected to receive a mini-grant may utilize the grant award in one of two focus areas: traffic safety or underage drinking and impaired driving prevention. Within the focus area selected, the group will then opt to concentrate on policy and enforcement or education and collaboration.

For more information: <http://www.sadd.org/sresources.htm>.

2008-2009 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant Program

Application Deadline: Open Enrollment through August 2009

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security announces the availability of approximately \$3.2 million in federal funds for high visibility traffic enforcement and equipment grants through September 2009. Funds are available for local police and campus police departments to conduct mobilizations entitled "Click It or Ticket," "Road Respect," and "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest." In addition, participating grant departments will be eligible to purchase traffic safety equipment, signage, and materials after July 1, 2009 upon successful completion of selected 2009 enforcement mobilizations.

For more information: www.mass.gov/eopsfunding (click on Highway Safety) or contact Caroline Hymoff, Highway Safety Division at 617-725-3334 or Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding Opportunities

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the landmark American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the “Recovery Act”). As one of its many elements, the Recovery Act provides the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) with funding to assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement (including support for hiring), to combat violence against women, to fight internet crimes against children, to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to assist victims of crime, and to support youth mentoring. DOJ is committed to working with our national, state, local and tribal partners to ensure this funding invests in the American workforce.

For general information about American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding available through DOJ, go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryact.html>. Following is information about some of the grants that will be made available.

COPS Hiring Recovery Program

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) has announced the availability of up to \$1 billion in grant funding under the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP). State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies are eligible. Grants will be made to law enforcement agencies having primary law enforcement authority to create and preserve jobs and to increase community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Grants will cover 100% of approved entry-level salaries and benefits for three years (36 months) for newly hired, full-time sworn officers (including filling existing unfunded vacancies) or for rehired officers who have been laid off, or are scheduled to be laid off on a future date, as a result of local budget cuts. There is no cap on the number of positions a department may request, but awards are limited by available funding. At the conclusion of federal funding, grantees must retain sworn officer positions awarded under this grant by adding these positions to their law enforcement budget. Applications will be accepted online via the COPS Office website beginning March 16, 2009 through April 14, 2009.

For more information: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=2108>.

Recovery Act: STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allocation for VAWA STOP Grant Program has been announced by the Department of Justice’s Office of Violence Against Women. The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security will be submitting an application the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Commonwealth. Once the allocation is secured, EOPSS will make funding available in the form of grants. EOPSS will develop and announce relevant details in the weeks to come.

For more information: Please continue to monitor the EOPSS website.

Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program, Local

Application Deadline: May 18, 2009

The U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Statistics has determined that 147 of the Commonwealth’s cities and towns are eligible to apply directly to the U.S. Department of Justice for funding. Some cities and towns must apply collectively under one application on behalf of their respective county. The allocations for which these cities and towns are eligible to apply may be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryJAG/recjag/MA.xls>. EOPSS encourages all eligible cities and towns to apply for this funding.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryJAG/JAGrecoveryLocal>

Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program, State

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allocations for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for Byrne Justice Assistance Grant funding have been announced by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security is the entity authorized to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Commonwealth. EOPSS is currently working on an application and implementation plan to be submitted for approval to the U.S. Department of Justice. Once the allocation is secured, EOPSS will make funding available in the form of grants.

For more information: Please continue to monitor the EOPSS website.

Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Competitive Grant Program

Byrne Competitive Grants, similar to JAG grants, are focused on ensuring job growth and job retention. However, instead of providing grants based on a formula, BJA administers these funds based on a competitive application process. These grants help state and local communities improve the capacity of local justice systems and may be used for national efforts such as training and technical assistance. Applicants may be national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government that support the functioning of the criminal justice system. Eligible applicants will apply directly to the U.S. Department of Justice for these funds.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/BJA/recoveryact.html>.

Other Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

Social Science Research on Wrongful Conviction

Application Deadline: March 16, 2009

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding for empirical data collection and research on wrongful convictions. This solicitation is intended to support a more expansive and empirical examination of wrongful convictions than currently exists. In particular, this solicitation seeks to fund research on post-conviction DNA exonerations in the investigation, trial, and post-conviction stages of the criminal justice process as well as a comparison to non-DNA exonerations.

Access full text at: <http://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000847.pdf>.

FY 2009 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration State-Based Capacity Building Program

Application Deadline: March 26, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks applications for funding to provide comprehensive resources and services to eligible but unfunded Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program applicants. BJA is seeking a service provider with extensive national-level expertise to: 1) provide proactive, comprehensive, user-friendly services; 2) establish a national resource center to serve as the primary source of information on justice and mental health collaboration programs; and 3) implement strategies that include developing tools and resources such as distance learning, peer-to-peer consultations, and onsite, phone, and e-mail assistance to customers.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/09JMHCPStatesol.pdf>.

Adult Drug Court Research to Practice Initiative

Application Deadline: March 26, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), in partnership with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), seeks applications to assist communities in developing effective drug court strategies for nonviolent substance-abusing offenders. Priorities for topics to be addressed by this initiative include refining target populations and eligibility requirements to maximize impact and efficiency given local priorities and resources, and identifying program operations best practices such as incentives and sanctions, treatment modalities, service option screening, and legal and other issues to balance drug court participants' rights with public safety needs.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/09DrugCourtResearchSol.pdf>.

Adult Drug Court Planning and Training Program

Application Deadline: March 26, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Assistance seeks applications to assist communities in developing effective drug court strategies for nonviolent substance-abusing offenders through two components. The first component, the Adult Drug Court Initiative, assists jurisdictions in the planning and development of new drug court programs; the second component, the Adult Drug Court Training Initiative, offers a menu of training options to access and incorporate into local, regional and, statewide drug court training events. Applicants must clearly indicate which category they are responding in the program abstract.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/09DrugCourtTrainingSol.pdf>.

Adult Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Initiative

Application Deadline: March 31, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Assistance seeks applications from fully qualified organizations to administer the Adult Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Program, Statewide Drug Court TTA Program, or National Drug Court Resource Center. The goal of the Adult Drug Court TTA Program is to assist operational adult drug treatment court programs in the development and implementation of improved program practices for increased program effectiveness and long-term participant success. The goal of the Statewide Drug Court TTA Program is to provide direct support and information to state agencies that enhance the leadership of the statewide drug court effort, improve coordination and collaboration among drug court agencies, and help to institutionalize drug courts into court operations. The goal of the Drug Court Resource Center is to collect, maintain, and disseminate information about drug court operations, best practices, and trends.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/09DrugCourtTTAsol.pdf>.

OVC FY 09 State Victim Assistance Academy (SVAA) Initiative

Application Deadline: April 1, 2009

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) seeks applications to assist states in developing effective strategies for establishing State Victim Assistance Academies (SVAAs) and to help create a network of SVAAs that can meet the educational and training needs of victim service providers and allied professionals. The purpose of the SVAA is to provide comprehensive, academically based, fundamental education and training for victim assistance providers, victim advocates, criminal justice personnel, and allied professionals who routinely deal with crime victims.

For more information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/FY09SVAAInitiative_new.pdf.

2009-2011 Deaths in Custody Reporting Program: State Prisons and Local Jails

Application Deadline: April 1, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Statistics seeks applications for a data collection agent for the State prison and local jail portions of the Death in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP) for 2009 through 2011. This data collection consists of individual records of every death that takes place in state prisons and local jails nationwide. Both for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations may apply.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/dcrp09sol.pdf>.

Crime and Justice Research

Application Deadline: April 6, 2009

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks applications for funding of social and behavioral research on, and evaluations related to, crime and justice topics relevant to state and/or local criminal and juvenile justice policy and practice. NIJ has identified the following priority research areas for Fiscal Year 2009: predicting crime; emerging crime; human trafficking; re-entry; preventing crime related to gangs; improving the criminal justice system: prosecution and defense; and reduction of correctional populations.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000869.pdf>.

The 2009 State Court Processing Statistics (SCPS)

Application Deadline: April 8, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Statistics seeks applications for funding to administer the State Court Processing Statistics Project. SCPS is a recurring data collection involving the compilation of felony cases processed in a sample of state courts in the nation's 75 most populous counties. The current solicitation will provide an opportunity to begin initiating certain aspects of the SCPS redesign. The recipient of this award will administer the data collection and collaborate with BJS to finalize and implement additional enhancements to the collection as recommended by the redesign work.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/scps09sol.pdf>.

Research and Evaluation on the Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of Elderly Individuals and Residents of Residential Care Facilities

Application Deadline: April 10, 2009

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks applications for funding for research and evaluation in the areas of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of individuals over the age of 60 ("elderly"), including individuals who reside either in the community or in residential care facilities. For the purpose of this solicitation, the term "abuse" includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse, abandonment and isolation, neglect, or financial or fiduciary abuse. The term "residential care facility" includes nursing homes; assisted living facilities; adult family care homes; adult care facilities for people with developmental, cognitive or physical disabilities; and other residential facilities that provide services to persons who are elderly, have disabilities, or have long-term chronic care needs.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000863.pdf>.

Second Chance Act National Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Resource Center Grant

Application Deadline: April 20, 2009

The Bureau of Justice Assistance seeks applications for funding to establish a reentry resource center under the Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative. The grant recipient will establish a National Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Resource Center on behalf of the Bureau of Justice Assistance to provide education, training, and technical assistance for states, tribes, territories, local governments, service providers, non-profit organizations, and corrections institutions. The grant recipient will collect data and best practices in offender reentry from demonstration grantees and others agencies and organizations; develop and disseminate evaluation tools, mechanisms, and measures to better assess and document coalition performance measures and outcomes; disseminate information to states and other relevant entities about best practices, policy standards, and research findings; develop and implement procedures to assist relevant authorities in determining when release is appropriate and in the use of data to inform the release decision; develop and implement procedures to identify efficiently and effectively those violators of probation, parole, or supervision following release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility who should be returned to prisons, jails, or juvenile facilities and those who should receive other penalties based on defined, graduated sanctions; develop a national reentry research agenda; and establish a database to enhance the availability of information that will assist offenders with housing, employment, counseling, mentoring, medical and mental health services.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/09SecondChanceResourceSol.pdf>.

3M Sign Grant Program

Application Deadline: November 30, 2009

The 3M Sign Grant Program is designed to significantly reduce road sign replacement costs to local and state governments to meet the latest federal retroreflectivity standards set by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to improve traffic safety. Any government agency is eligible to apply for one-time grants to receive cost savings to upgrade road signs to meet and exceed the FHWA Minimum Levels of Retroreflectivity. Eligible upgrades include: agencies upgrading their sign sheeting from: Engineer Grade (Type I) to High Intensity Prismatic (Type III, IV, X); Engineer Grade to Diamond Grade DG3 (Type XI); High Intensity Beaded or Prismatic to Diamond Grade DG3. If an agency has upgraded certain sign series but not all, they are eligible to apply for a grant for those remaining sign series.

For more information: www.3MSignGrants.com.

Research and Publications

Differences between Stranger & Known Assailant Assaults, 2008

This report, recently released by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), summarizes data from the Provider Sexual Crime Report (PSCR) and presents a comparison of findings on the nature and context of sexual assault perpetrated by known assailants versus sexual assault perpetrated by strangers. Developed by a multidisciplinary committee in 2000, the PSCR data tracking form collects information from cases where an individual sought medical treatment for a sexual assault. Massachusetts law requires medical providers who treat sexual assault victims to report details about the crime to EOPSS and to local law enforcement. These data elements are unique, as they include information reported by medical professionals which are not necessarily reported to the police.

Access full text at: http://www.mass.gov/Eeops/docs/eops/Publications/sex_assault_stranger_vs_known_assailant_2008.pdf.

Differences between Sexual Assaults Perpetrated in Small, Medium, & Large Massachusetts Cities, 2008

This report, recently released by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), summarizes data from the Provider Sexual Crime Report (PSCR) and compares characteristics of PSCR sexual assaults perpetrated in small, medium, and large Massachusetts cities. For the purposes of this report, small cities are defined as those with a population under 20,000, medium cities with a population between 20,000 and 50,000, and large cities with a population over 50,000. This report compares the findings on the nature and context of sexual assaults occurring in these three city types. (See above blurb for PSCR details)

Access full text at: http://www.mass.gov/Eeops/docs/eops/Publications/sex_assault_differences_based_on_city_size_2008.pdf.

State and Local Law Enforcement Training Academies, 2006

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report is a 2006 update to the initial BJS Census of Law Enforcement Trainings Academies from 2002. Using data collected from 648 basic training academies, statistics are presented on the number and type of training instructors; types of training facilities; expenditures and funding; curriculum; and the number of instruction hours for each training topic. The number and characteristics of basic training recruits and completion rates by race, gender, and type of training environment are also included. Additional topics include training related to terrorism and community policing.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/slleta06.pdf>.

Characteristics of Juvenile Suicide in Confinement

This Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention bulletin details findings from the first national survey of juvenile suicides in confinement facilities. The survey collected information from 110 juvenile suicides that occurred in confinement between 1995 and 1999. Data presented in the bulletin include victim demographic characteristics and social history; characteristics of the incident; and features of the confinement facilities where suicides occurred, including available suicide prevention programming. Recommendations on how to prevent future suicides in juvenile facilities are highlighted.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/214434.pdf>.

Conferences and Trainings

Massachusetts Police Chief and Supervisor Trainings on Traffic Stop Data Collection Best Practices and Bias Based Policing

The Municipal Police Institute (MPI) and the Institute on Race and Justice at Northeastern University will host a series of Police Chief Executive Trainings and Police Supervisor Trainings on Traffic Stop Data Collection Best Practices and Bias Based Policing. These trainings, sponsored with federal funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), will provide a broad overview of how racial stereotypes can consciously or unconsciously affect our behavior and impact policing practices, how to begin to address these effects, developments in traffic stop data collection and analysis, how data can be used as a management tool, and entering into dialogue with the community.

For registration information: <http://www.mpittraining.com> or contact Kim Collins at MPI, 508.839.5723.

Police Chief Executive Trainings:

Session II: March 24 at Amherst Police Department

Session III: April 8 at NEMLEC Executive Board Meeting

This training consists of one 3.5 hour session, and will be held throughout various regions of the Commonwealth. The purpose of this training is to provide Police Chiefs with a synopsis of the more extensive two day training that is being offered to Massachusetts Police Supervisors.

For more information: contact Lisa Laguerre at (617) 373-4678.

Police Supervisor Trainings:

Session II: March 25 and March 30 in Springfield, MA

Session III: April 6 and April 15 in Millbury, MA

Session IV: May 6 and May 13 in Wakefield, MA

These trainings will consist of two full days and will be held throughout various regions of the Commonwealth to ensure that all supervisors have an opportunity to attend. All Supervisor Trainings will begin with registration at 8:00 a.m. and end promptly at 3:30 p.m.

For more information: contact Lisa Laguerre at (617) 373-4678.

In Our Lifetimes: Current Conversations and Innovations in Primary Prevention

March 17-18, 2009 in Framingham, MA

The Jane Doe Inc. Training Institute, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, is hosting a training series designed to build skills, capacity, and a network that will promote primary prevention of sexual and domestic violence across the Commonwealth. While Day 1 will focus on setting the framework for primary prevention, Day 2 will focus on engaging communities in primary prevention.

For more information: www.janedoe.org.

Underage Drinking Prevention Conferences

April 3, 2009 in Wrentham, MA

April 28, 2009 in Pittsfield, MA

May 5, 2009 in Plymouth, MA

May 11, 2009 in Brockton, MA

Four Massachusetts District Attorney's Association offices have been awarded federal funds through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security-Highway Safety Division to host one-day conferences. These conferences will bring together a variety of stakeholders in children's lives to prevent underage drinking. Attendees may include parents, school personnel, health-care professionals, state and local law enforcement representatives, and others.

For more information, please contact: Worcester County- Karen McGrath, Karen.mcgrath@state.ma.us, Norfolk County- Michael Jackman, Michael.p.jackman@state.ma.us, Berkshire County- Carol Mulcahy, Carol.a.mulcahy@state.ma.us, Plymouth County- Ed Jacoubs, Edward.jacoubs@state.ma.us.

2009 Essex County Annual School Safety Conference

April 7, 2009 in Topsfield, MA

The Essex District Attorney's Office is sponsoring this conference, entitled "Creating a Safe School Environment: Best Practices for Assessing Bullying, Harassment, Sexting and Aggression." Keynote speaker for this event will be Rosalind Wiseman, author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes*. Ms. Wiseman is also the author of "Owning Up," a violence prevention curriculum designed for high school and middle school students. The featured speaker will be Richard Cole, a nationally known civil rights attorney and former Civil Rights Division Chief in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office. Essex County school superintendents, administrators, educators and police, along with public and mental health providers are invited to attend the conference.

For more information: www.mass.gov/essexda or email [Diane Steele](mailto:Diane.Steele@state.ma.us) at Diane.Steele@state.ma.us.

28th Annual National CASA Conference

April 25-28, 2009 in Denver, CO

Sponsored by the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention the theme of this conference is "Taking Advocacy to a Higher Level." Participants will have the opportunity to network with more than 1,400 CASA staff, board members, volunteers, judges, attorneys, and other child welfare professionals.

Access full text at: <http://www.casanet.org/conference/>.

Fifth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference

May 27-29, 2009 in Seattle, WA

Sponsored by the Sexual Assault Resource Service office, in conjunction with the Office for Victims of Crime, the ongoing goal of the National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference is to support both the development and improvement of SARTs across the nation. Titled "SART: Our Community, Our Investment," the 2009 conference will focus on expanding the capacity of SARTs and will provide both basic and advanced information through case studies, interactive opportunities, research findings, survivor accounts, networking opportunities, and longer sessions that allow for more in-depth exploration of issues.

For more information: <http://www.sane-sart.com>

News

The following are excerpts from newspaper articles regarding public safety topics.

Breakthrough on 'Broken Windows'

The Boston Globe, February 8, 2009

The year was 2005 and Lowell was being turned into a real life crime-fighting laboratory, reports *The Boston Globe*. Researchers, working with police, identified 34 crime hot spots. In half of them, authorities set to work - clearing trash from the sidewalks, fixing street lights, and sending loiterers scurrying. Abandoned buildings were secured, businesses forced to meet code, and more arrests made for misdemeanors. In the remaining hot spots, normal policing and services continued. The results, just now circulating in law enforcement circles, are striking: a 20 percent plunge in calls to police from the parts of town that received extra attention. It is seen as strong scientific evidence that the long-debated "broken windows" theory really works.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/02/08/breakthrough_on_broken_windows/.

Mass. Attorney General Martha Coakley Proposes Boosting Penalty for Corporations Convicted of Manslaughter

***The Republican*, February 26, 2009**

According to *The Republican*, the Massachusetts attorney general and three state lawmakers recently proposed increasing the state's \$1,000 penalty for corporations convicted of manslaughter to \$250,000. The \$1,000 penalty, which dates to 1819, came under scrutiny after a supplier of epoxy used in the Big Dig was charged with involuntary manslaughter in the death of a Boston motorist who was killed when part of a concrete tunnel ceiling collapsed in 2006. Coakley called the \$250,000 fine a "starting point," and acknowledged that some lawmakers may view that amount as too low. A separate bill pending in the state Legislature would raise the maximum penalty to \$1 million.

Access full text at: http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/mass_attorney_general_martha_c_1.html?category=Crime&category=Westfield.

Gov. Deval Patrick Details Flagger Success

***The Boston Herald*, March 7, 2009**

Using civilians on road construction sites instead of pricey police details has saved the state \$12,500 already, and flaggers could be used on as many as 60 percent of MassHighway projects this construction season, according to *The Boston Herald*. Roughly 800 state highway employees have been trained to oversee flaggers since Gov. Deval Patrick unveiled his controversial plan last year to use less costly civilians to direct traffic on low-traffic work sites, said MassHighway Commissioner Luisa Paiewonsky. Patrick's new regulations, which he said could save the state \$5 million a year, allows civilians to flag traffic past projects funded by the state highway department, as long as they are on state roads with a speed limit under 45 mph or on local streets

Access full text at: http://www.bostonherald.com/news/politics/view/2009_03_07_Gov

[Deval Patrick details flagger success: Saves 12G taking cops off jobs/](#).

Announcement

“Move Over” Law

On Sunday, March 22, the new “Move Over” law will be in effect. This law requires all motorists who are approaching any stationary vehicle with flashing lights (police, fire, ambulance, tow truck, etc.) to proceed with due caution, slow down to a reasonable and safe speed, and change lanes so as to not pass directly next to the stationary vehicle if it is possible and safe to do so. This law is an important tool to help protect first responders in dangerous and potentially deadly situations.

For a copy of the law: www.mass.gov/safety/moveover.

Federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP)

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is requesting that all local departments currently registered as BVP system users ensure that the contact information previously provided, including names and email addresses, reflects the most current information to date. DOJ will be utilizing this contact information to disseminate by email important BVP correspondence, such as new application periods and award announcements. If you are not currently registered in the federal system, you inquire should inquire about doing so.

For assistance updating, verifying, or registering your BVP contact information, please email DOJ at vests@usdoj.gov.

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us

Subscription details:

To subscribe to this newsletter send an email to: join-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us

To unsubscribe to this newsletter send an email to: leave-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us

For additional information on EOPSS' grant programs or agencies please visit: www.mass.gov/eops